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Guidance on Remote Pilot Certificate Renewals

1. Change Record

Date	Issue	Revision Description
16.01.2026	1	Initial publication.
19.01.2026	2	Change to expiry date in Section 7.1
15.05.2026	3	Remote pilot certificate renewals are now enabled on mySRS. Reference to UAM 018 for application process.

2. References

- Regulation (EU) 2018/1139¹

¹ https://www.easa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/dfu/Easy_Access_Rules_for_the_Basic_Regulation.pdf

- Regulation (EU) 2019/947²

3. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the renewal of remote pilot certificates issued by the Irish Aviation Authority.

4. Definitions

For the purposes of this guidance document, the definitions in Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Regulation (EU) 2019/945 & Regulation (EU) 2019/947 apply.

5. Regulation

Remote pilot certificates are issued with a validity period of five (5) years.

- UAS.OPEN.070 of the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/947, paragraph 1 *“The remote pilot online theoretical competency, required by points (4)(b) of point UAS.OPEN.020 and point (3) of point UAS.OPEN.040, and the certificate of remote pilot competency, required by point (2) of point UAS.OPEN.030, **shall be valid for five years.**”*
- UAS.STS-01.020 of the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/947, paragraph 3 *“This certificate **shall be valid for five years.**”*
- UAS.STS-02.020 of the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/947, paragraph 10 *“This certificate **shall be valid for five years.**”*

Remote pilots are required to revalidate their certificates within this validity period.

- UAS.OPEN.020(4),
- UAS.OPEN.040(3),
- UAS.OPEN.030(2),
- UAS.STS-01.020(3), and

² <https://www.easa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/dfu/Easy%20Access%20Rules%20for%20Unmanned%20Aircraft%20Systems.pdf>

- UAS.STS-02.020(10)

6. Issue

Remote pilots were unable to revalidate their remote pilot certificates, issued by the Irish Aviation Authority.

Initial applications for remote pilot certificates were not affected.

The issue was remedied on 30th April 2026 and affected remote pilots were messaged, in MySRS, that remote pilot certificate renewals were now enabled on mySRS.

7. Exemption

The Irish Aviation Authority, pursuant to Article 71(1) – Flexibility Provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, provided a general exemption from compliance with the requirement to revalidate. This exemption was in place until 16th August 2026, but following the remote pilot certificate renewal function being enabled on mySRS, this exemption will now expire on 30th May 2026.

7.1. Rationale

To allow time to for the IAA to enable remote pilots to revalidate their remote pilot certificates, and to ensure no remote pilot was affected, the IAA exempted remote pilots from the requirement to revalidate their certificate, where issued before 16th August 2021 or until the exemption was revoked, whichever was sooner.

Therefore, if your remote pilot certificate has expired, or expires prior to 30th May 2026, or until the exemption is revoked, whichever is sooner, it may still be considered valid up to 30th May 2026.

If your remote pilot certificate has expired, and you availed of the Art 71(1) exemption, you now have until 30th May 2026 to renew your certificate.

7.2. Limitations

The exemption was subject to the following limitations:

- Limited to remote pilots who hold a valid or expired remote pilot certificate issued by the Irish Aviation Authority prior to 16th August 2021.
- Remote pilot certificates subject to suspension or revocation, and remote pilots subject to a direction not to operate a UAS under Statutory Instrument 24 of 2023 are excluded from this exemption.

8. Guidance on proctored assessment of remote pilots

Guidance can be found in [uam-018---guidance-on-proctored-assessment-of-remote-pilots.pdf](#) at [UAS Advisory Memoranda](#). Applicants for proctored assessments are advised to review this document completely before they apply for an exam.